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most primitive stage of religious development imminently preceded that stage which existed in the sixth and fifth centuries B.C. While fully recognizing the persistence of religious forms and beliefs, it must be said that the vista of the development of Greek religion is badly distorted when the origins are made to seem to appear so close to the full development. One more remark on the fundamental character of the book. It attempts to answer the question, "What is religion?" That is generally regarded as a problem in psychology, but Miss Harrison has worked out her answer under the spell of Bergson's idea of *durée*, a philosophical theory (though some will not dignify it so), and Durkheim's theory that religion and the idea of God are the result of group thought, to which latter savant psychology has little value. It is no great wonder, then, that this attempt should end in Agnosticism, for that seems to be for Miss Harrison the conclusion of the whole matter.

Mr. Cornford's chapter and Professor Murray's views on the origin of the drama cannot be discussed here. Space is all too small to do justice to Miss Harrison's work, which certainly challenges the attention of students of Greek and students of religion. It is not, however, a book for beginners.

LEROY CARR BARRET

HARTFORD, CONN.

Catalogue of the Acropolis Museum. Vol. I, "Archaic Sculpture." By GUY DICKINS. Cambridge: University Press, 1912. Pp. 291. \$3.50.

To the numerous German, French, and Greek works which have recently appeared dealing with the Acropolis collections at last is added one in English. It was undertaken at the request of Dr. Kavvadias and was prepared while its author was a student in the British School of Archaeology at Athens. The present volume treats only of the archaic sculptures (viz., those at present contained in the first seven rooms of the museum), and a later volume will complete the catalogue.

The book opens with a valuable introduction (pp. 1-53) which deals with the history of the excavations on the Acropolis, the *Perserschutt*, a chronological study, and the more general features of the objects discussed. In the catalogue proper each number is illustrated by a small cut. These make no pretense to artistic excellence but are quite sufficient to visualize and identify the object. A full bibliography is also appended to the discussion of each number.

The task is done with care and discrimination and is deserving of all praise. Instead of trying to pick flaws, *necque enim soli iudicant qui maligne legunt*, perhaps it would be more serviceable to give a brief statement of Mr. Dickins' conclusions upon a few mooted points. He objects to Lechat's criteria for dating archaic sculpture on the grounds that "we have no evidence of wood technique in the poros sculptures" (p. 11) and that "there are good early artists and bad late artists" (p. 14). "The only sure criterion of dating," he

maintains, "is to take the development of small individual features . . . points in which artistic conventions gradually develop, conventions which bad artists and good alike learn from their masters." He follows Studniczka in ascribing the winged Nike from Delos to Archermus, "whether the base belongs or not" (p. 20, n.). As to the identity of the *kópai*, he thinks it "not impossible" that they are substitutes for "the real maiden who was once offered to the maiden goddess" (p. 33). He would assign the Hera of Samos and two similar figures from the Acropolis (nos. 619 and 677) to the Naxian, not the Samian, school (p. 151). As against E. Gardner, he accepts No. 681 as belonging to the Antenor base (pp. 231 f.). He rejects all the interpretations that have been proposed for the "Mourning Athena" (p. 260).

Doubtless not all of these positions will be acceptable to every archaeologist, but at least each has the sponsorship of high authorities. Extreme views are presented for what they are worth, but great caution is shown in adopting them. Mr. Dickins' final volume will be eagerly awaited.

Roy C. FLICKINGER

The Greek Commonwealth. Politics and Economics in Fifth-Century Athens. By ALFRED E. ZIMMERN. Oxford: The Clarendon Press, 1911. Pp. 454. \$2.90 net.

In these days when the gods of the undergraduate are economics and sociology, when social service has become a cult and eugenics a rising constellation, it was to be expected that the Attic civilization would be the subject of a fresh inquisition. Mr. Zimmern has attempted to give in a book of 400 pages a social and economic picture of fifth-century Athens.

The work is divided into three parts: geography, politics, economics—the last, the most complete.

Mr. Zimmern has taken the Funeral Speech as his text and the reader must admit that the sermon is not long and never dull. Even to such a terrestrial subject as Greek geography he has given interest by his illustrations and even more by his unusual point of view. It is economic and not descriptive geography. Perhaps the American reader will not always be enlightened by the climatic comparisons between England and Greece, but this could hardly have been avoided unless Mr. Zimmern were to expatriate himself. The quotations from the *Pilot* are apt. After trying to desecrate the Scamander with a steam launch, I am willing to vouch for the observation (p. 38) that "all [Greek rivers] are obstructed at their entrances by shoals, and few will admit boats."

The part on politics is, perhaps, the least suggestive. The Aegean civilization is treated in the historical summary with aloofness. The development from the nomad to the village stage of civilization (chap. ii) is not very satisfactorily sketched. Pp. 105-15 seem to have little to do with the chapter on religion of which they form the larger part. One may be pardoned for doubting the statement (p. 81) that the Greeks "never lead a forlorn hope" in spite